

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior claim listing and versions in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A gateway for connecting networks of different types, for connecting a first network and a second network which uses a signal format different from that of the first network, said gateway comprising:

a conversion section ~~which converts~~ operable to convert a first signal used in the first network to a second signal ~~to be~~ used in the second network, and a second signal used in the second network to a first signal to be used in the first network, when communication is performed between a terminal connected to the first network and a terminal connected to the second network;

a detection section ~~which detects~~ operable to detect conversion-process information containing at least one of ~~the~~ a time said conversion section spent to convert the first signal or the second signal, and ~~the~~ an amount of data converted; and

a network-connecting section ~~which is connected~~ operable to connect to at least one of the first network and ~~the~~ second ~~networks~~ network and ~~which transmits~~ operable to transmit the conversion-process information to a fee-charging system of the first network or to a fee-charging system of the second network.

2. (Original) The gateway according to claim 1, wherein said conversion section converts at least one of a call-control signal generated by call-connection signaling, an audio signal generated by an audio CODEC and a video signal generated by a video CODEC.

3. (Original) The gateway according to claim 2, wherein said conversion section comprises a signaling gateway unit which converts the call-control signal and a media gateway unit which converts the audio signal and the video signal, wherein said detecting section detects the conversion-process information used in a conversion process in the media gateway unit.

4. **(Original)** The gateway according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the conversion of the call-control signal is conversion between a Q.931 signal and an SIP signal, the conversion of the audio signal is conversion between an AMR bit stream and a G.723.1 signal, and the conversion of the video signal is conversion between an MPEG4 bit stream and an H.263 signal.

5. **(Currently Amended)** A system for charging fees for communication between networks of different types, said system comprising:

a first terminal ~~which performs~~ operable to perform a call control, the first terminal being connected to a first network;

a second terminal ~~which responds~~ operable to respond to the call control performed by the first terminal, the second terminal being connected to a second network[[:]] ~~a first network to which the first terminal is connected;~~

~~a second network to which the second terminal is connected[[:]] and~~

a gateway ~~which connects~~ operable to connect the first network and the second network, wherein[[:]]

the first network and the second network use different signal formats[[:]],

the first network comprises a fee-charging system[[:]],

the gateway converts a first signal from the first network to a ~~suitable~~ second signal suitable for ~~the~~ a signal format of the second network and transmits the second signal to the second network, converts ~~[[a]]~~ the second signal from the second network to ~~a suitable~~ the first signal suitable for the signal format of the first network and transmits the first signal to the first network, detects conversion-process information containing at least one of ~~the~~ a time spent to convert the first signal or the second signal and ~~the~~ an amount of data converted, and transmits the conversion-process information to the fee-charging system, ~~in order to accomplish communication between the first terminal and the second terminal[[:]]~~ and

the fee-charging system performs a fee-charging process in accordance with the conversion-process information, to charge a fee ~~[[on]]~~ for a user of the first terminal.

6. **(Original)** The system according to claim 5, wherein the gateway detects the conversion-process information after the first terminal and the second terminal have been connected to each other.

7. **(Original)** The system according to claim 5, wherein the gateway detects the conversion-process information about at least one of a signal generated by an audio CODEC and a signal generated by a video CODEC.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A method of charging fees for communication between networks of different types, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first network and a second network using a signal format different from that of the first network, by means of a gateway ~~which converts~~ operable to convert a first communication signal from a first terminal connected to the first network~~[[,]]~~ to a ~~suitable~~ second signal suitable for ~~the~~ a signal format of the second network and ~~to converts~~ convert a second communication signal from a second terminal connected to the second ~~terminal~~ network~~[[,]]~~ to a ~~suitable~~ first signal suitable for the signal format of the first network;

detecting conversion-process information containing at least one of ~~the~~ a time spent to convert ~~[[a]]~~ the first or second communication signal and ~~the~~ an amount of data converted, said signal having been transmitted after the first terminal and the second terminal have been connected to each other, by the gateway;

transmitting the conversion-process information to a fee-charging system of the network to which the first terminal or the second terminal that is a calling side is connected, by the gateway;

and

charging a fee ~~[[on]]~~ for a user of the calling-side terminal, said fee being fixed or calculated on ~~the~~ a basis of communication time, based on the conversion-process information, by the fee-charging system.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the conversion-process information includes at least one of the time spent to convert signals in an audio CODEC and video CODEC and the amount of data converted therein.